



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women's & Children's Health Section**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor

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May 1, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Health Directors

FROM: Evelyn Foust, CPM, MPH *EF*
Beth Rowe-West, RN, BSN *BRW*

SUBJECT: State-Supplied Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine in STD Clinics

The purpose of this memo is to announce that the HIV/STD and Immunization Branches are collaborating to encourage administration of state-supplied human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in STD clinics. Genital HPV infection is a sexually transmitted disease (STD) that is caused by human papillomavirus. This vaccine, trade name Gardasil™ is manufactured by Merck, and offers a new approach to the prevention of HPV and associated conditions. STD clinics are ideal settings for administering HPV vaccinations to eligible at-risk adolescent females.

State law 90-21.5 authorizes a minor to consent to HPV vaccine because it prevents venereal warts, which is a venereal disease. Minors who consent to services without parental permission must be assured of the privacy of their medical records. This includes immunizations. Therefore, whenever vaccines are administered under these circumstances, a hand written record of other vaccines administered must be presented whenever requested by the parent in lieu of a record printed from the North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR). Meanwhile, we will explore technical changes in the NCIR to allow printing of immunization records while preserving the privacy of the minor.

According to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the provisional recommendation for routine administration of HPV vaccine is for adolescent females 11-12 years of age, although the vaccination series can be started in females as young as nine years of age. The vaccine should be administered as a three-dose series with the second dose administered two months after the first dose, and the last dose given four months later (0, 2 months, 6 months). For maximum benefit, the vaccine should be administered before the onset of sexual activity, however females who are already sexually active can also benefit from being vaccinated. To view the ACIP recommendations for HPV vaccine, go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5602.pdf>

State-supplied HPV vaccine is available only for Vaccines for Children (VFC) eligible children. Although the recommended schedule for HPV vaccine is a 3-dose series for females who are 11 to 12 years of age, state-supplied HPV vaccine is available for all females 9 through 18 years of age who meet at least one of the following VFC eligibility categories:

- Medicaid eligible
- Uninsured
- American Indian or Alaskan native
- Underinsured children whose health insurance benefit plan does not cover the full cost of vaccinations and they receive immunizations at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Center (RHC)

Providers must purchase HPV vaccine for those patients who do not meet eligibility criteria for state-supplied HPV vaccine.

State-supplied HPV vaccine is packaged as ten single-dose vials. Health departments may order HPV vaccine for their VFC population through the North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR). Before placing an order you should review your anticipated HPV vaccine needs and policies.

The new Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) for HPV vaccine is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/publications/VIS/vis-hpv.pdf>. For reporting this product when billing the administration fee, the CPT® code is 90649. Third party payers, such as Medicaid, determine which diagnosis code (ICD-9) will be recognized for billing/reporting purposes

For further information, please contact your Regional Immunization Nurse, or the Immunization Branch central office at 919-707-5550.

CC: Jeff Engle Marcus Plesia RICs/RINs Joy Reed Megan Davies Field Services Regional Supervisors
SMT